

Appl. No. 09/777,989  
Atty. Docket No. 8035M  
Amtd. dated 23 March, 2005  
Reply to Office Action of 23 September, 2004  
Customer No. 27752

REMARKS

Claims 1-34 remain in the instant Application and are presented for reconsideration in light of the restriction requirement of September 23, 2004.

Response to Requirement for Election of Species

Applicants have been required, under 35 USC 121, to elect a single species of method for conducting high performance liquid chromatography for prosecution on the merits. Applicants elect with traverse the method for conducting high performance liquid chromatography illustrated by the Specification at Page 10, starting in line 25. The non-elected species remaining in the Application are to be held in abeyance until final disposition of the species. Claims 1-9 are readable on the method for conducting high performance liquid chromatography elected by the Applicants.

Traversal of Requirement for Election of Species

The primary rationale for requiring an election of species is the undue burden placed upon the Examiner when he or she is required to search the art for a variety of distinct species. The methods for conducting high performance liquid chromatography of the present invention would, it appears, be grouped by the Examiner into the same class, namely Class 210. Applicants submit that a comprehensive search of one class of art would not be unduly burdensome. Applicants further submit that the methods for conducting high performance liquid chromatography of the present invention are closely interrelated, and that in order to preserve unity of invention all of them should be prosecuted in the same application. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the requirement to elect a single species of method for conducting high performance liquid chromatography for prosecution on the merits.

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Conclusion

Applicants have made an earnest effort to place the present claims in condition for examination and allowance. WHEREFORE, entry of the elections provided herewith, reconsideration of the claims in light of the above elections, and allowance of Claims 1 to 34 are respectfully requested. In the event that issues remain prior to allowance of the noted claims, then the Examiner is invited to call Applicants' undersigned attorney to discuss any remaining issues.

Respectfully submitted,

THE PROCTER & GAMBLE COMPANY

By 

Signature

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